

# *Aims of the American Planning and Civic Association*

## NATIONAL

WE, the members of the American Planning and Civic Association, have united our efforts, and seek the association of others of like mind to make the United States a better country in which to live, work and find wholesome outdoor recreation.

We consider that the people of this generation have a responsibility to make the best use of their heritage of land, water and other natural resources for their own and coming generations.

We support a National Park System, composed of parks, monuments and historic sites of national importance protected from unrelated uses. We favor comprehensive programs for recreation and education fostered by the National Park Service in the public interest.

We approve a long-range forestry program which will provide a sustained yield of forest products, conserve natural cover, rehabilitate cut-over lands, guard against soil erosion, prevent forest fires and protect established wilderness areas.

We support a sound, coordinated watershed program for beneficial uses of our water resources.

We urge the adoption of soil conservation practices on public and private lands.

We favor responsible control and administration of the unreserved public domain.

We advocate a comprehensive program for conservation of native wildlife.

We commend the Federal-aid highway system, urge extension of protected roadides, and recommend well located national scenic parkways.

We maintain that Washington should continue to be planned and developed as a Federal City of beauty and convenience, a fitting National Capital for the American people.

## STATE

WE encourage state planning and commend the creation of official state planning boards to coordinate state programs for transportation and communication, agriculture and land and water utilization, conservation and recreation, industries and public improvements.

We advocate planned state park systems, composed of areas of state-wide importance, linked together by scenic parkways or highways.

We encourage state systems of forests and wildlife areas.

We recommend the effective control of design for all state buildings, monuments, grounds and public open spaces.

We oppose the disfigurement of the countryside by signs, billboards and unsightly structures and advocate state-wide zoning and control of road-sides, the employment by State and County Highway Departments of landscape architects in the selection of routes, highway widths and design of roadides.

We commend the preparation of regional plans across state lines.

We advocate the extension of metropolitan and county planning and zoning.

We thus endeavor to promote better physical environment in the belief that the health, happiness and culture of the American people will be conserved and developed thereby.

## LOCAL

WE work for the extension of comprehensive town and city planning and urban redevelopment, including zoning which will promote protected commercial and industrial areas and residence neighborhoods of workable size, shape and location to make possible adequate housing and amenities for all citizens. We urge adequate parks, parkways and playgrounds, planned street, highway and transit systems, including Federal and inter-regional thoroughfares across urban areas which conform to the comprehensive city plan. We maintain that areas once dedicated as parks should not be appropriated for unrelated uses.

We favor the planned provision and adequate maintenance of street trees in cities and towns and we urge the use of landscape architectural advice in cooperation with engineering supervision in the installation of underground and overhead utilities. We believe in regulation of signs on commercial structures, the abolition of billboards from residence neighborhoods, in the vicinity of parks and public property, and the restriction of outdoor advertising in any place where it will detract from the appearance of buildings and grounds or injure the value of surrounding property.

We advocate coordinated plans for Federal, State and local public buildings and the establishment of municipal art commissions to pass upon the plans of public structures and private buildings facing public buildings and grounds.

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## THE AMERICAN PLANNING AND CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Formerly American Civic Association and  
National Conference on City Planning

Is dedicated to the education of the American people to an understanding and appreciation of: local, state, regional and national planning for the best use of urban and rural land, and of water and other natural resources; the safeguarding and planned use of local and national parks; the wise management of national and state forests; the conservation of natural scenery; the improvement of living conditions and the fostering of wider educational facilities in schools and colleges in the fields of planning and conservation.

Those who wish to see these aims realized are invited to associate themselves with us.

HORACE M. ALDRIGHT, Chairman of the Board  
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## Civic Progress Depends on Civic Leaders

EFFECTIVE Civic Leaders owe it to themselves to be members of the American Planning and Civic Association where they can count collectively in a National organization which:

In Federal affairs accomplishes for them what they cannot accomplish by themselves.

In state affairs gives them a means of co-operation with state planning agencies, and

In local affairs provides concrete civic programs and suggestions for home, town and neighborhood planning and improvement.

## Membership

The American Planning and Civic Association is administered by a Board of Trustees chosen from eminent national planning, professional, civic and conservation leaders. Individual, business, industrial, planning, professional, educational, conservation, governmental and civic memberships are invited.

Further information available upon request.

## AMERICAN PLANNING AND CIVIC ASSOCIATION

901 UNION TRUST BUILDING

WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

August, 1958

## WHY IS IT that AMERICAN PLANNING AND CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

are equipped to be leaders  
in their communities?

BECAUSE membership in the American Planning and Civic Association furnishes essential information on which to build local planning, park and civic improvement programs and local support for state and national programs for conservation of natural resources.

Through its PUBLICATIONS the AMERICAN PLANNING AND CIVIC ANNUAL, PLANNING AND CIVIC COMMENT and Civic Bulletin, members are kept informed on land and water resources, community planning, housing, park and highway development.

A PLANNING AND CIVIC INFORMATION BUREAU is at the disposal of all members, information is collected on specific planning, park and civic problems and reference lists of literature are compiled. Special Service is available for state and local groups on planning problems and roadside improvement.

A WATCH SERVICE is maintained to keep members posted on Federal legislation and Executive action in the field of conservation, planning, parks, and civic improvement.

CITIZENS PLANNING CONFERENCES are held annually to discuss planning and conservation problems. National park, roadside improvement and other special conferences are sponsored from time to time.